

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KUWAIT 01591 271526Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 SSM-03 ACDA-07 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /080 W
-----271551Z 001910 /45

R 271442Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7596
INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY DOHA
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 1591

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, PLO, KU, LE
SUBJECT: KUWAITI POSITION ON TREATMENT OF PALESTINIANS IN
LEBANON

REF: (A) BEIRUT 942 (NOTAL); (B) KUWAIT 910.

1. KUWAIT MINISTER FOR CABINET AFFAIRS, ABDUL-AZIZ HUSSEIN,
REPORTEDLY INDICATED TO LOCAL NEWSMEN SOME UNHAPPINESS WITH
THE CURRENT TREATMENT OF PALESTINIANS IN LEBANON. TALKING
IN KUWAIT MARCH 25, HUSSEIN IS REPORTED (AL QABAS, MARCH
26) TO HAVE SAID THAT THE GOK WILL VOTE TO EXTEND THE ARAB
SECURITY FORCE MANDATE "DEPENDING UPON THE SITUATION IN
LEBANON," AND THAT KUWAIT, LIKE EGYPT, DOES NOT AGREE WITH
"NEW INTERPRETATIONS" WHICH HAVE BEEN GIVEN BY SOME TO THE
TEXT OF THE CAIRO AGREEMENT. THE NEXT DAY, THE LOCAL PLO
REP., ALI YASSIN, REPORTEDLY TOLD NEWSMEN THAT HUSSEIN'S
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CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KUWAIT 01591 271526Z

STATEMENT WAS ANOTHER INDICATION OF KUWAIT'S "SINCERE SUPP-
PORT" OF THE PALESTINIAN CAUSE. OTHER PALESTINIAN SOURCES
IN KUWAIT REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED THEIR "FULL SATISFACTION"
THAT KUWAIT OPPOSES "NEW INTERPRETATIONS" OF THE CAIRO
AGREEMENT ORIGINALLY ESTABLISHING PALESTINIAN STATUS IN
LEBANON (AL QABAS, MARCH 27).

2. THE ISSUE OF NEW INTERPRETATIONS OF THE CAIRO AGREEMENT REPORTEDLY WAS DISCUSSED BY KUWAITI MINISTERIAL COMMITTEE FOR POLITICAL AND SECURITY AFFAIRS, WITH KUWAITI AMBASSADOR TO LEBANON BAYJAN (HOME ON CONSULTATION) MARCH 21. PRESS INDICATES THAT THIS COMMITTEE HAS MADE A RECOMMENDATION ON THIS ISSUE TO THE KUWAITI CABINET, WHICH RECOMMENDATION WAS TO BE DISCUSSED IN ROUTINE MARCH 27 CABINET MEETING.

3. MARCH 27 PRESS ALSO INDICATES THAT TUNISIAN FONMIN SHATTI AND SYRIAN FONMIN/DEPPRIMIN KHADDAM ARE SCHEDULED TO ARRIVE (SEPARATELY) IN KUWAIT MARCH 27 AND THAT BOTH ARE EXPECTED TO DISCUSS THE STATUS OF PALESTINIANS IN LEBANON AND RELATED MATTERS. REPORTEDLY, SHATTI IS COMING FROM SAUDI ARABIA AND KHADDAM ARRIVES FROM QATAR. ALSO PLO CENTRAL COMMITTEE-MEMBER ABU MAZEN EXPECTED TO ARRIVE (ALSO FROM QATAR) ON MARCH 28 FOR A THREE-DAY "OFFICIAL VISIT." (ABU MAZEN MAY CONCEIVABLY ALSO BE INVOLVED IN PALESTINIAN FESTIVITIES OF MARCH 30 (YOM AL-ARD) WHICH HAS BECOME AN ANNUAL CELEBRATION COMPLETE WITH MUCH SPEECH MAKING IN KUWAIT.)

4. COMMENT: THE GOK APPEARS TO BE WORRIED THAT THE "NEW INTERPRETATIONS" ISSUE WILL DISTURB ITS TRADITIONALLY GOOD RELATIONS WITH THE PLO, ESPECIALLY SINCE ITS OWN AMBASSADOR IN LEBANON EARLIER APPARENTLY SHARED IN THE "INTERPRETING" AS A MEMBER OF THE GUADRIPARTITE COMMITTEE IN BEIRUT. WE PRESUME THAT THE HIGH-LEVEL SYRIAN AND PALESTINIAN VISITORS WILL TRY TO LOBBY THE KUWAITIS

CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 03 KUWAIT 01591 271526Z

ON THIS ISSUE AND WILL MAKE THEM EVEN MORE UNCOMFORTABLE IN THE PROCESS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PALESTINIANS, SECURITY, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977KUWAIT01591
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770105-0394
Format: TEL
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770318/aaaaapcf.tel
Line Count: 100
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: f4f439b1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BEIRUT 942, 77 KUWAIT 910
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2983410
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: KUWAITI POSITION ON TREATMENT OF PALESTINIANS IN LEBANON
TAGS: PFOR, KU, LE, PLO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/f4f439b1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009